Fifth International Workshop on Computational Logic in Multi-Agent Systems – CLIMA V

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The notion of agency has recently increased its influence in the research and development of systems based on computational logic, while at the same time significantly gaining from decades of research in that area. Computational logic provides a well-defined, general, and rigorous framework for studying syntax, semantics, and procedures for implementations, environments, tools, and standards, facilitating the ever-important link between specification and verification of computational systems.

The purpose of the workshop series on Computational Logic in Multi-Agent Systems (CLIMA) is to discuss techniques, based on computational logic, for representing, programming, and reasoning about multi-agent systems in a formal way. CLIMA is now in its fifth edition: CLIMA V was held in Lisbon, Portugal, on the 29th and 30th of September 2004. Former editions have been conducted in conjunction with other major Computational Logic and AI events such as CL in July 2000, ICLP in December 2001, FLoC in August 2002, and LP-NMR and AI-Math in January 2004. Selected papers from previous editions have been published in special issues of international journals and in volumes issued by international publishers.

Together with the CLIMA steering committee, we decided to co-locate CLIMA V with the Ninth European Conference on Logics in Artificial Intelligence (JELIA'04). One of the reasons for this choice was our wish to promote the CLIMA research topics in the broader community of Logics in AI: a community whose growing interest in issues related to multi-agent has been demonstrated by the large number of agent-related papers submitted to recent editions of JELIA.

The call for papers was answered by 35 submissions – a significant increase, when compared to the 25 received for the previous edition. The submitted papers showed that the logical foundations of multi-agent systems are currently considered, by a large community, as a very important research topic upon which to build when addressing classical AI and agent-related issues such as agent planning and interaction.

In line with the high standards of previous CLIMA editions, the review process was very selective. The final acceptance rate was below 50%. A program committee of 24 top-level researchers from 11 countries and 12 additional reviewers selected 16 papers for presentation, authored by 46 researchers worldwide. The resulting program was organised in four technical sessions: *Logical Foundations of Multi-Agent Systems I & II, Communication and Coordination, and Planning and Applications.*

The workshop programme featured an invited lecture by Alessio Lomuscio (University College London) on Specification and Verification of Multi-Agent Systems, as well as a panel discussion organised by Marina de Vos (University of Bath) on Logic-based Multi-Agents Systems and Industry. Around 50 delegates attended the two-day event.

At the time of writing, revised selected and invited papers from CLIMA IV are about to be published by Springer as a volume of the Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence series. Likewise, selected papers from CLIMA V will be further extended to incorporate workshop discussion, and reviewed again for inclusion in the post-proceedings, to be published as a Lecture Notes volume by Springer.

Paolo Torroni and Francesca Toni will be the organisers of CLIMA-VI, to be held in London in June 2005.

Fifth International Workshop on Engineering Societies in the Agent World – ESAW'04

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The fifth edition of ESAW ran successfully over three days from the 20th to 22nd of October 2004. The event took place in the mild autumnal weather of Toulouse (France), hosted by IRIT and under sponsorship of AgentLink III, Artal, ILOG, IRIT, Paul Sabatier University, and Whitestein. The chair Marie-Pierre Gleizes (IRIT, France) together with the founders Andrea Omicini (Bologna University) and Franco Zambonelli (Modena and Reggio Emilia University) welcomed 40 attendees representing 14 European countries, as well as Canada and Japan. This edition received 46 submissions and the program committee selected 25 of them.

Papers were grouped into 9 sessions briefly outlined below. Each session was structured as a series of presentations and questions, and – when time was available – wrap-up discussions for all participants about key issues raised in the talks. This report refers to some of the main points discussed during the workshop; post-proceedings will soon be available with all the workshop's contributions. In addition, two invited talks started the second and third days, to spark the audience's interest from early in the morning.

The first session on Software Engineering began with Davy Capera (IRIT, France), as he described an application of the well-known ADELFE framework to design software models of mechanic systems by means of adaptive agents. The second talk by Dirk Bade (Hamburg University, Germany) tackled practically the issue of deployment and launching of physically distributed MAS. Then, the author of this report laid out a formal and general model of overhearing in order to study how agents can learn from others' interactions. Finally, Sonia Frutos (Madrid Polytech-